

THE NATION AND ATHENÆUM

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1927.

THORNTON
BUTTERWORTH
BOOKS

A Novelist's Tour of the World

VICENTE BLASCO IBANEZ,

Author of "*The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*."

"An original and companionable book. He sees vividly, and communicates an exhilarating delight in every new thing."—*The Times*.
Profusely illustrated. 21s. net.

The World Crisis, 1916-1918,

by Rt. Hon. WINSTON S.
CHURCHILL, C.H. 2 vols. 4th
Impression. 42s. net.

Franz Liszt: *The Man of Love*, by GUY DE
POURTALES. Large Crown 8vo. 10s. 6d. net.

FICTION 7s. 6d. net.

The House of the Talisman

HELEN HALYBURTON ROSS,

Author of "*A Man with his back to the East*."

"A recruit to the army of our novelists not merely of distinguished promise, but of really brilliant performance."—*Sunday Times*.

Passion and Peat

A. DE CHATEAUBRIANT

Grand Prix du Roman de l'Academie Francaise.

"Now comes a French epic of the soil . . . a searing, clutching, powerfully moving piece of literary work."—*New York Times*.

Sleet and Candlelight

E. K. WOOLNER

A first novel dealing with a girl's forced choice between two modes of life and the story of two loves that made the choice necessary.

The Wife of Evelyn Strode

LUCIEN SMITH

After All . . .

MARY CAIR

Tomek the Sculptor

ADELAIDE EDEN PHILLPOTTS

The Secretary of State

STEPHEN McKENNA

Sarati the Terrible

JEAN VIGNAUD

15 BEDFORD ST.



LONDON W.C.2

Announcements

POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Manual on the Law and Practice. Issued by the Council of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries. Demy 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d. net (postage 6d.).

"An excellent manual."—*Insurance Record*.

PARLIAMENTARY LOGIC

By Rt. Hon. WILLIAM GERARD HAMILTON. With an Introductory Essay and Notes by Prof. COURTNEY STANHOPE KENNY. Sm. demy 8vo, cloth.

A book by 'Single Speech Hamilton' long out of print. Reprint Series No. 1.

DICTIONARY OF ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION WITH AMERICAN VARIANTS

(In Phonetic Transcription)

By H. E. PALMER, J. V. MARTIN and F. G. BLANDFORD. Crown 8vo, cloth, 5s. net (postage 6d.).

"An excellent volume."—*American Mercury*.

"Of great interest."—*Nation*.

EVERYDAY SENTENCES IN SPOKEN ENGLISH

Third Edition.

By H. E. PALMER. Revised and enlarged by F. G. BLANDFORD. Crown 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d. net (postage 4d.). This new edition has been brought up to date and includes an Orthographic section with intonation marks.

SPIRITUAL GRAVITATION

By ALICE DEW-SMITH, author of "Soul Shapes," etc. Crown 8vo, sewed.

A brilliant essay which attempts to show that there is a "spiritual" as well as a "physical" gravitation at work in the universe.

Prayer Book Revision

THE INVOCATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

By Rev. J. W. HUNKIN, B.D. Demy 8vo, sewed, 1s. net (postage 2d.).

An attempt to set out the main facts in a concise manner.

EUCHARIST AND SACRIFICE

By Prof. F. C. BURKITT, D.D. Demy 8vo, sewed, 6d. net (postage 2d.).

CHURCH MUSIC REFORM

By JOHN NEWTON. F'scap 8vo, sewed, 1s. net (postage 2d.).

W. Heffer & Sons, Ltd.

And of all Booksellers

G. Bell & Sons

Algernon Cecil's

New Book

British Foreign Secretaries

Studies in the Personality and Policy of eleven leading Statesmen from 1807 to 1916. "Mr. Cecil has many wise things to say; he is always interesting, and his judgments, though downright enough, do not offend against good taste."—*The Times*. "A particularly interesting way of writing the history of British foreign policy in the last century."—*Daily News*.

Just Out. 390 pp., with portraits. 15s. net.

Edmund Burke

Bertram Newman

A fine piece of biography by a young writer whose previous book (on Cardinal Newman) earned him the reputation of being "a critic of the first rank." "Extremely able, well-written, well-informed, and intelligent."—*Saturday Review*. "Excellent."—*Sunday Times*.

362 pp. 7s. 6d. net.

The Indecisiveness of Modern War

J. Holland Rose, Litt.D.

Eleven Essays by the distinguished biographer of Napoleon, on problems of war and national policy. "The various subjects are treated with the fullness of knowledge, the accuracy and freedom from bias, which are the marks of all that comes from the pen of the Cambridge Professor of Naval History."—PROFESSOR SPENSER WILKINSON in the *Manchester Guardian*. "A book which should be read by all who are interested in strategic and kindred problems."—*Outlook*.

10s. 6d. net.

The Approach to Painting

Thomas Bodkin

A practical book for those who wish to cultivate an intelligent appreciation of pictorial art. "His first five chapters . . . open to the ordinary reader a new conception of art. . . Mr. Bodkin has done a great service to art."—*Public Opinion*.

With 24 plates. 7s. 6d. net.

Notable Chess Books

"Messrs. Bell hold a foremost place as publishers of chess books in our language."—*New Statesman*.

Capablanca's "Chess Fundamentals."	10s. 6d. net.
Capablanca's "My Chess Career."	7s. 6d. net.
Lasker's "Chess Strategy."	7s. 6d. net.
Du Mont's "Elements of Chess."	7s. 6d. net.
Alekhin's "My Best Games of Chess."	10s. 6d. net.

(June).

SUPREME THE WORLD OVER.

Webster's New International Dictionary

"A library in itself," for its 2,700 pages hold the quintessence of the world's knowledge. Its authority is unrivalled, its 440,000 definitions models of lucidity, its synonyms and literary quotations invaluable. On the lighter side, it is the ideal help in the solution of Crosswords and similar recreations.

Price, in one Volume, Bound Buckram, 65s. net.

WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED PROSPECTUS.

YORK HOUSE, PORTUGAL STREET, LONDON, W.C.2

THE NATION

AND ATHENÆUM

LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

CONVERSATION

Conversation. By OLIVE HESELTINE. (Methuen. 7s. 6d.)

THE author has been at some pains to make this book worse than it need have been. Purposing, first to lay down the laws, then to write the history of conversation, she has given us one chapter which might pass muster in a manual of social deportment and seven in which she makes the most of a superficial knowledge of general history. Such a book is not likely to be very interesting or at all amusing, but it might have been no worse than thousands of others had not Mrs. Heseltine made the mistake of supposing that it is possible to write as though one were clever when one is not. It is the huge discrepancy between pretension and performance that renders this book peculiarly distressing. How is one to be patient, to be civil even, with an author who, giving herself the airs of a modern Matthew Arnold, dashes at her subject—or rather to one side of it—as though she were afraid almost of her own brilliance, and drops forthwith into the dull paddie of which this is a sample?

"All through the last half of the sixteenth century the country was being deserted for the towns; and London, with its courts and palaces, its shops and theatres, its taverns and bear-gardens, its docks and shipping, was the Mecca which drew towards it every lover of life. With the help of old maps and contemporary descriptions we may piece together some semblance of that fantastic Elizabethan London—its gay Court, with its masques and revels, its courtiers and maids of honour, dressed in white, its yeomen of the guard in scarlet with a golden rose upon their backs, following Queen Elizabeth to the banquetting hall to the sound of drums and trumpets. We can picture . . ."

To lay down rules of conversation is impossible, because no two conversations are alike. Conversation is not, as Mrs. Heseltine seems to suppose, like tennis. Get four well-matched and moderate players on to the court and you can be pretty sure of a good game; but it is anything but sure that good conversation will flow where four or five good talkers are gathered together. Conversation happens: a missed train or a burnt omelette may provoke memorable talk; while approved gambits, the tactful hostess, and any amount of champagne may bring nothing worth remembering to the surface. The most one should care to say on such a subject would be that to good conversation certain atmospheres appear to be definitely unfavourable: an atmosphere of constraint, for instance, is generally fatal. In the ideal atmosphere there would be no closed subjects; which is not to say that in an ideal conversation spades might not go by the oddest and most unlikely nicknames. But the intellect, if it is to play its prettiest games, must have all heaven and earth for toy-box. There must be no topics at which faces lengthen and voices drop. Everything must be, not only open to criticism, but liable for purposes of ornament and illustration to be irreverently poked, pinched, and travestied. If it is the finest intellectual romps you want, there must be no Blue-Beard's chamber. For lock one door in the house, and intellect sits hobbled and sulking in the lobby; instead of wit, irony, paradox and surprise, giving you nothing better than anecdotes and puns.

Free conversation—conversation in which there are no closed subjects—has, I suppose, been possible in mixed company even, under cover of judicious and often in itself entertaining periphrasis, in all highly civilized ages. In contemporary London and Paris (and elsewhere I doubt not, but I will speak only of what I know) conversation is free enough; the prevalent enemy to-day is not restraint but the doctrine of the lowest common factor. An intelligent hostess invites two or three of her friends to dinner, but the tired and possibly less intelligent host insists on having two or three of his invited too; and, according to the doctrine of the l.c.f., it is for these to call the tune. By the

amusing guests amusing things are said; but they are not taken up. On the contrary, they are sucked down; and the conversation, like a runaway cart-load of bricks, descends noisily and fast the long slope that ends in brandy, cigars, and chestnuts. That, I daresay, is why intelligent hostesses generally prefer lunch-parties.

So far, I have been thinking of what, for want of a better word, I will call intellectual conversation; and of conversations where the company does not consist of intimate friends intellect is the proper basis. But the most delightful conversations most of us can remember were probably conversations of character—conversations, I mean, of which the charm lay in the fact that what everyone said was intensely characteristic. Such conversation is possible only when all present are well known to each other and when all have characters in some way remarkable. It is curiously agreeable to hear those we like or admire say things exactly like themselves. When to Lord Anglesey's exclamation: "By God, I've lost my leg," the Duke replies: "Have you, by God?" what makes us laugh is the characteristicness of the comment. Unfortunately, only men and women of character can make remarks in character. To affect a highly personal style when one happens to have no personality, is what is called "posing," and adds nothing to the pleasure of the company.

The history of conversation cannot be written, because of conversation we can have no faithful record. Essentially it is something spoken, and spoken, as a rule, without premeditation. The moment one begins to write down what was said, one alters its character. To be properly appreciated, conversation must be heard not read. From books the best we can get is a record of witty repartee and characteristic remarks; and our enjoyment of the latter will depend clearly on our knowledge of the speaker's character. Johnson, for instance, has been made so familiar to us that his sayings have sometimes the quality of sayings by an intimate friend. So, when in the pass of Glensheal he snubs poor Boszy's enthusiastic assertion that a mountain is "immense" with "No, sir, it is no more than a considerable protuberance," we are enchanted by the remark not because it is witty but because it is Johnson.

But, as a rule—Boswell's book being unique, is an exception to all rules—the historian must condense conversation into monologue, into something, that is to say, utterly unlike the real thing. To be sure, the greatest conversation in history, as it is often and perhaps rightly called, purports to be a series of speeches on a set theme; but we can see that it was, in fact, a less formal affair than the narrative of Aristodemus might lead us to suppose—though not than Plato allows us to divine. And if we are to attempt the impossible, if we are to adumbrate conditions favourable to good talk, inevitably it will be to this most famous dinner-party we shall turn. Observe, in the first place, that here are no closed subjects. Love is the theme, love in all its aspects—in some that would have got the protagonists into an English police-court. The company is cultivated, so cultivated that Socrates can raise an eyebrow at Agathon's coloured style and parody a line of Euripides with the certainty that his point will be appreciated. The speakers are serious without being solemn. When Aristophanes has arrived by exquisitely comic ways—not free from smutty jokes, profanity, and an attack of the hiccups—at a serious conclusion, he smothers it instantly in ribaldry.

"These (those that have discovered their lost halves) are they who devote their whole lives to each other, with a vain and inexpressible longing to obtain from each other something they know not what; for it is not merely the sensual delights of their intercourse for the sake of which they dedicate themselves to each other with such serious affec-

tion; but the soul of each manifestly thirsts for, from the other, something which there are no words to describe, and divines that which it seeks and traces obscurely the footsteps of its obscure desire."

Which said, immediately he goes on to maintain that if we are not extremely attentive to the gods, it is to be feared that Zeus will chop us in two again; and then, says he, we shall have to go about, like the figures artists paint on the columns, with our noses split down the middle, to say nothing of having to hop on one leg. When Alcibiades appears, slightly drunk, he recounts the story of his fruitless passion for Socrates—Socrates sitting by the while smiling blandly, one surmises. In conversation a pinch of shamelessness is a desirable ingredient. But Alcibiades never forgets that his tale of woe is bound to appear a little ridiculous to everyone else: a sense of humour is not amiss either. And now, interrupting a pretty scrimmage about who is to sit next whom, bursts in a crowd of uninvited revellers; "and the whole place being thrown into an uproar, order went by the board, and everyone felt bound to drink furiously." The greatest dinner-party in history ended, I regret to say, in what magistrates call a disgraceful orgy.

CLIVE BELL.

THE ROUND WORLD

- Cape to Cairo.** By STELLA COURT TREATT, F.R.G.S. (Harrap. 21s.)
- The Long Lead.** By M. H. ELLIS. (Benn. 12s. 6d.)
- Through a Land of Promise.** By MICHAEL TERRY, F.R.G.S. (Jenkins. 18s.)
- Canada: the Great River, the Lands, and the Men.** By MARION I. NEWBEGIN, D.Sc. (Christophers. 12s. 6d.)
- Newfoundland.** By DON C. SEITZ. (Allen & Unwin. 12s. 6d.)
- Under Sail in the Frozen North.** By COMMANDER F. A. WORSLEY, D.S.O. (Stanley Paul. 18s.)
- Through Kamchatka by Dog-sled and Skis.** By STEN BERGMAN, D.Sc. (Seeley, Service. 21s.)
- The Himalayan Letters of Gipsy Davy and Lady Ba.** (Heffer. 15s.)
- Tiger, and Other Game.** By COLONEL A. E. STEWART. (Longmans. 16s.)
- Out in the Blue.** By VIVIENNE DE WATTEVILLE. (Methuen. 18s.)
- Pheasant Jungles.** By WILLIAM BEEBE. (Putnam. 12s. 6d.)
- White Waters and Black.** By GORDON MACCREAGH. (Cape. 16s.)
- Ports of France.** By HERBERT ADAMS GIBBONS. (Cape. 16s.)
- A Three-Legged Tour in Greece.** By ETHEL SMYTH, D.B.E., D.Mus. (Heinemann. 7s. 6d.)
- Wild Goose Chase.** By C. HENRY WARREN. (Faber & Gwyer. 6s.)

MRS. TREATT has written a racy account of the first journey by motor-car from the Cape to Cairo. The expedition, commanded by Major Treatt, followed the "all-British" route and occupied sixteen months. Mrs. Treatt, who acted as cook, doctor, seamstress, and diarist, was the only woman member of the party, and, as if the inevitable hardships of the adventure were not enough for her, she courted such supererogatory perils as the solo hunting of big game and the descent of the Victoria Falls! On the whole, however, her record is one of difficulties rather than of thrills, though the Red Dinkas by the Bahr el Arab river proved "a nasty crowd" and gave her for the first time in her life "the fear of a horrible death." For the rest, the worst foes encountered were mud, insects, trackless forests, bridgeless rivers and swamps, abnormal rains, and occasional shortage of food and water. Mrs. Treatt brings all these things vividly before us. But her narrative is a diary in the best sense of being also an intimate revelation of temperament. The writer's courage shines radiantly through her modesty, and it is the more attractive for being shot through with streaks of true femininity.

Mr. Ellis describes the first motor-car journey across Australia, from Sydney to Port Darwin and back, a distance of 6,278 miles. Started in 1924, it was at the time the longest motor trek achieved within the Commonwealth. The author, however, who was accompanied by three friends, was not seeking a "stunt," but was sent by the Sydney DAILY TELEGRAPH to examine the conditions of the Northern Territory

on behalf of the Australian Meat Council. His view is that the immediate possibilities of the region—especially of the Barkley Tableland—have been greatly exaggerated by the politicians. Of the difficulties and humours of motoring through sand, water, and long grass, and of such occasional diversions as the chasing of kangaroo or emu, Mr. Ellis writes in bright journalistic style. His most serious chapters deal sympathetically with the plight of the aborigines, doomed ere long, he thinks, to extinction.

Mr. Michael Terry, in his account of an expedition with car, gun, and camera in the heart of Northern Australia, agrees with Mr. Ellis about the bad influence of missionaries on the black natives. He is more optimistic, however, about the prospects of sheep raising and cattle grazing, and in view of the next great war, which he assures us is "not far distant," and in which the Argentine meat supply might fail us, he appeals to British financiers to find capital for the provision of railways and irrigation in Northern Australia "ahead of population." But Mr. Terry is not wholly concerned with politics. Much general observation is combined in his pages with an interest in sport. But, in spite of the semi-fictional medium in which he has chosen to write, his book is heavier reading than Mr. Ellis's.

Dr. Newbegin is a geographical historian. He sees "man and place together, and not as separate entities." Writing from this viewpoint, he gives us a history of Canada covering the French period from Cartier's first voyage of discovery in 1534 to the taking of Quebec, with an epitome of subsequent progress in the Dominions. As a study of man's reaction to his physical environment the book has its special interest. But as history in the ordinary sense it is a sound and solid piece of work.

In "Newfoundland," Mr. Don Seitz presents a succinct, popular survey of the oldest of the English-speaking communities in the Western World. Its history, scenery, people, natural resources, government, and economics are considered in turn, and there is a delightful chapter on the Newfoundland dog. The main purpose of the book is to be informative. But it is pleasantly written and reflects a charming personality, while at times the author's style, as in the fine description of a salmon, attains real dignity and beauty.

Commander Worsley has written the official story of the British Arctic Expedition of 1925, which he describes as "sails' last unaided battle with the Polar pack." Gretter Algarson, the airman, who contributes a preface, raised the funds and organized the expedition, which was intended as a preliminary to the aeroplane discovery of the Pole which he hoped to undertake, but in which he was anticipated by Amundsen. The crew was composed mainly of volunteers and amateurs, and, alike as a record of heroism, a scientific and nautical log, and a description of the wild North, the book makes exceptionally interesting reading.

Dr. Bergman's book deals with the remote Siberian peninsula of Kamchatka and is specially concerned with the quaint nomadic tribes of the Koryaks and the Lamuts, who are not yet completely Russianized. Two journeys are described—one on skis and with dogs from north-eastern Kamchatka to Petropavlovsk, and one of four months on dog-sledges into the central and northern regions of the peninsula. On the former journey the author was accompanied only by his wife. The expeditions were organized by a Swedish University with a view to zoological, botanical, and ethnographical research. The scientific results are here reviewed only incidentally and non-technically; the book in the main is a picturesque, chatty, anecdotal narrative of personal adventures and impressions.

"The Himalayan Letters of Gipsy Davy and Lady Ba" is as strange and forbidding as its title. It contains the actual letters written to various friends by two sojourners who spent fifteen months in the High Himalaya, gipsying with a train of ponies, yak, and coolies. The letters are personal, gossipy, and discursive, but lack the true epistolary charm. They contain much incidental matter that is informative and interesting. But the average reader will probably find the buried treasure hardly worth the trouble of unearthing.

Colonel Stewart's book is not intended for a general audience. Written from the author's large experience as soldier Shikari in India, the volume, which does not present

a sustained narrative, but is made up of disconnected notes, is a text-book of practical instruction for the sportsman in India who wishes to run his own expedition. Here, in detailed and lucid form, will be found all he needs to know about the bigger and lesser game.

"Out in the Blue" is among the best written and most interesting volumes on our list. The author is the daughter of the late Bernard de Watteville, a member of a distinguished Bernese family. When she was only twenty-four, Miss de Watteville accompanied her father upon the journey to Kenya and Uganda here so admirably described by her. The object of the expedition was the securing of a collection of African fauna for the Berne Museum. When her father died after being mauled by a lion, Miss de Watteville herself heroically carried on the expedition. Her book deals largely with the shooting of big game and the methods and difficulties of preserving their skins. But it also brings vividly before us the country between Lake Victoria Nyanza, the Kiva Volcanoes, and the snowclad peaks of Ruwenzori—"the most marvellous country in the world."

Mr. William Beebe recently spent seventeen months in the Far East, gathering material for a monograph on pheasants. He visited Ceylon, Sikkim, Garhwal, Burma, Tibet, Yunnan, Pahang, and Borneo. His book deals less with the scientific than the personal aspect of his travels. His breezy anecdotes and impressions make fairly good light reading, though the matter is sometimes too thin and the humour too broad.

"White Waters and Black" describes the adventures of eight white men who spent a year and a half in the unknown jungles of South America. Most of the eight men were University professors; their purpose was to collect biological specimens; and not one of them had ever fired off a pistol in his life. The story of their discoveries and adventures, as well as their individual and collective reactions and idiosyncracies, was written day by day by Mr. Gordon MacCreagh as the expedition proceeded. The result is a travel book of a delightful and original kind, with plenty of serious interest, yet light and engaging as a good novel.

In his "Ports of France," Dr. Herbert Gibbons, another American writer, deals at random with twenty-three of the better and lesser known towns on the French coast. He gives us a medley of description, information, history, reminiscence, and impressionism. His book, though it has its value for the tourist, is essentially literary in form and appeal. It has charm, atmosphere, and an individual outlook.

These qualities are found even more abundantly in Dame Ethel Smyth's account of a holiday with her great-niece. The tour had "something of the three-legged race about it," because the exuberance of the younger partner had to be toned down to the pace of the older. The travellers, with much difficulty and at great discomfort, avoided the beaten tracks of the tourist agencies, and explored for themselves some of the more famous, but little visited, parts of Greece. The book is written as a guide for "fellow-Greek maniacs." But it will be enjoyed by all readers who appreciate sensitive writing and that rare kind of humour which is at once racy and quiet.

Another traveller with a temperament and the gift of good writing is Mr. Warren, who recently sailed "steerage" to Canada and crossed that country by emigrant train. Of the hardships of the adventure, and of the conditions and prospects of emigration, he gives us a gloomy, if incidentally humorous and wholly readable, account. Except that he revelled in the scenery of the Rockies, he was, indeed, bitterly disappointed with Canada. He hoped to find there a unity and simplicity of life that the Old World has lost. He returned, however, thoroughly disillusioned. Like Mr. Chesterton, whose mediæval outlook he shares, he finds the main virtue of travel in the fact that, through seeing other countries, one is enabled to see one's own; and there is nothing more charming in his book than the final picture he gives us of his own ancient and little East Anglian town.

The illustrations to most of these books are remarkably fine. Reviewing almost any one of the volumes by itself, we should have declared the pictures "exceptionally" good. But the exception is obviously becoming the rule.

FOUR CENTURIES OF FRENCH LITERATURE

L'influence de Ronsard sur la poésie française (1550-1585). Par MARCEL REGMOND. Two vols. (Champion.)

Philippe Quinault: Sa vie et son œuvre. Par ETIENNE GROS. (Champion.)

Quinault: La mère Coquette. Par ETIENNE GROS. Edition critique. (Champion.)

Les impressions sensorielles chez La Fontaine. Par FELIX BOILLOT. (Presses universitaires de la France.)

L'ami de Rousseau et des Necker: Paul Moutou à Paris en 1778. Par FRANCIS DE CRECE. (Champion.)

Louis Bertrand, 1807-1841: Une vie romantique. Par CARGILL SPIETSMA. (Champion.)

Œuvres poétiques de Louis Bertrand. Par CARGILL SPIETSMA. (Champion.)

Pour le centenaire du romantisme: Examen de Conscience. Par ERNEST SEILLIÈRE. (Champion.)

TIME was when the more seriously minded Englishman was jealously disapproving of our "lively neighbours" who showed a deplorable tendency to waste their time in cafés with their neighbour's wife, had no word for "home," and went for walks on Sunday. Later the legend took a graver turn. The French were superficial, too anxious to arrive at a conclusion, and ever willing to sacrifice complexity to clarity. *Nous avons changé tout cela.* In literature, as in warfare, France now out-Huns the Hun, while in moral delicacy she out-Gladstones Gladstone. One doubtful advantage of this otherwise praiseworthy evolution, is the increasing length of the average book of French criticism "which might, before the Deluge, have been considered as light reading by Hilpa and Shalum." M. Regmond has seen his darling grow under his hand. He hoped to write a volume explaining the decline of Ronsard's reputation during the seventeenth and eighteenth century, and its revival with Sainte-Beuve and the romantics. But he had underestimated the necessary research, and seven hundred pages have not been more than enough for thirty-five years of literary history. But those already in eternity will find much to interest them in these two volumes, which deal entirely with the influence of Ronsard on the *Pléiade* and on minor writers never admitted to the inner body. In order to do this he has to quote a great deal of Ronsard, and still more of his successors, and all this makes the book very readable. Further, there is a great deal of pleasant information about provincial culture, particularly in Lyons and the unwillingness of slowgoing amiable persons to throw themselves into the new vortex. One can really do no more than recommend this book heartily to such students of the period as have time for a wealth of detail. At the end of the book the reader will have got somewhere.

The life of Quinault is also a hulking volume of eight hundred pages, which is rendered formidable by mere weight. The perseverer, however, will be rewarded by an unexpectedly interesting book. The first hundred and seventy-seven pages, which consist of Quinault's life, are extremely redolent of seventeenth-century life of the *petite bourgeoisie*, of the Court, of the theatre, of the salons. M. Gros admits that Quinault was a man of talent, not of genius, but he was so good-natured, competent, and reliable that one's heart goes out to him. He was the son of a baker, then valet to Tristan L'Hermite, and by the age of thirty a successful writer, and an intimate of Louis XIV. His busiest time was as librettist to Lulli, and of all this M. Gros writes delightfully. Though such a successful parvenu, whom the highbrows rather properly despised, he succeeded in avoiding enmities, and even Boileau made it up with him. He was rather sensitive about his birth, and when he purchased a position in the *Chambre des Comptes*, this was thrown up at him. He replied that he certainly was the son of a baker, but a baker of *petit pain*, an exquisitely subtle distinction. Things went badly for Quinault when he based an opera on a mistaken notion of the state of the King's heart, and Madame de Montespan drove him from favour; but he was soon back again, and died very well off after two conventional years of *haute dévotion*. Quinault fell into complete neglect during the nineteenth century, but in the eighteenth century Voltaire

and others found his libretti the best reading in the world. His reputation had suffered, they thought, from his association with Lulli. Tastes change, and to-day the best chance for Quinault would be that the revival of interest in French music should extend back from Rameau to Lulli. If M. Gros would compress his volume into half its present size, it would be safe to recommend it to anyone.

M. Boillot's is the stiffest and, to my mind, the least attractive on the list. In 360 pages he discusses the "sensorial" images of Lafontaine, and shows how they are always subordinated to action, e.g., "La sensation d'odeur est très nettement suggérée dans les exemples (a) et (b), elle l'est moins dans les suivantes et a complètement disparu dans les dernières (f) et (g)"; then follow seven uses of the word *sentir*. What the author says is correct and enlightening, but the method grows tedious after a while.

"L'ami de Rousseau et des Necker" is rather a relief after the portentous company in which we have been moving, being one of those short lively books half criticism, half biography, at which the French are so brilliant. Paul Moulton was a charming man, a meridional who was a Genevese minister, the best friend of Rousseau, an admirer of and collaborator with Voltaire, and a platonic lover of Madame Necker. He paid an exciting visit to Paris in 1778, the *annus mirabilis*, in which died Rousseau and Voltaire, stayed with the Neckers, enjoyed himself tremendously, and wrote home his raptures to his wife. The amount of time he spent weeping is extraordinary. It was usual when he got a letter from his wife for himself and all the company to burst into tears. He was a complete eighteenth-century *sensible*, and it is suitable that he fills his letters with descriptions of the elephantine gambols of the still childish Germaine Necker. With M. Seillière we are once more grave. M. Seillière has a tremendous conscience, and knows all about the romantic movement, which he wholly disapproves. He traces its descent from "Erotic platonism" feminized in thirteenth-century Provence, carried on again by the Quietists and the eighteenth-century latitudinarians, and finally burgeoning with Rousseau into an unhealthy rankness. His essays on French romantic writers, famous and the reverse, are extremely interesting, and we are in complete agreement till he comes to his own opinions. For M. Seillière, the "Victorian Age" was the most brilliant the world has known, and Kipling a completely admirable writer, to be bracketed in interest with Mrs. Humphry Ward. Here we need not hesitate to part company with M. Seillière. Respectability also has its *mysticism*.

Still we sympathize to a great extent with him, when we come to Louis Bertrand. M. Sprietsma is under a considerable disadvantage because so very little is known about the life of Bertrand, and that little has already been perfectly said by Sainte-Beuve; but this is always happening. M. Sprietsma is thus always having to write round his subject, about people Bertrand knew or might have known; his schoolmasters, his contemporaries, and his relations. But the description of Dijon society during the Restoration has a certain charm. Bertrand was certainly a genius in a small way, a Renaissance jeweller, as Sainte-Beuve calls him. "Gaspard de la Nuit" is a minor masterpiece, and he also wrote a famous quatrain, which may be beautiful or perhaps only slightly comic:—

"On entendit alors tinter au loin les cloches
Du gothique couvent de Saint Pierre les Loches :
Le vieillard était mort et l'on eut beau chercher
Où s'en était allé cet invisible archer."

M. Sprietsma publishes for the first time Bertrand's collected poems. But perhaps it was hardly worth doing. By the time one has finished Bertrand's life, one has become dispirited with his selfishness, his absurdity, his *conscience d'artiste*, his *culte de moi*, and his refusal to earn his own living, almost with his poverty and illness. He asked too much of society, considering how comparatively little he could give in return, and one goes back with pleasure to jolly old Quinault, who had less "genius," but more "talent," pulled his weight in the social boat, placed his gifts at the disposal of the community, and did not know the meaning of the word temperament or *culte de moi*. M. Seillière has a good deal on his side.

FRANCIS BIRRELL.

HUMANITY

The Autobiography of Kingsley Fairbridge. (Oxford University Press : Milford. 6s.)

Thirty Years in the Public Service. By ROSE E. SQUIRE, O.B.E. (Nisbet. 10s. 6d.)

The Autobiography of a Woman Soldier. By FLORA SANDES. (Witherby. 10s. 6d.)

Commander, R.N. By COMMANDER G. B. HARTFORD, D.S.O. (Arrowsmith. 10s. 6d.)

Liszt, Wagner, and the Princess. By WILLIAM WALLACE. (Kegan Paul. 10s. 6d.)

Memoirs of Eugénie Schumann. Translated by MARIE BUSCH. (Heinemann. 10s. 6d.)

The Oldest Biography of Spinoza. Edited by PROFESSOR A. WOLF. (Allen & Unwin. 6s.)

Cues and Curtain Calls. By H. CHANCE NEWTON ("CARADOS"). (Lane. 12s. 6d.)

HUMANITY is reassuringly diverse. It is no more to be stabilized by laws and customs than is the climate of the earth; if it could be, the result would be as dull. Adventure, enterprise, and independence sit boldly, in a different posture, on each personality in its own surroundings. To follow them round involves a continual change of atmosphere.

First, then, the South African veldt appears, where a small boy helps in the making of Rhodesia. At twelve years old he builds himself two huts on a lonely range, runs short of food for three days, and gazes, "starved and miserable," with a new vision at the empty slopes around him. "Some day I will bring farmers here," he says. It was in Western Australia that Kingsley Fairbridge's scheme was eventually carried out; but the story he tells is of his early life, and breaks off with the founding of the Child Emigration Society during his second year at Oxford. An innate feeling for the space and adventure of the veldt was responsible for his intolerance of slum conditions and his resolution. This sense of sheer wild life, where the deadly and the wonderful, side by side, keep the mind burningly aware, intensifies the narrative, sounding a deeper, more significant note behind the well-told story of a boy's impressions. The lion's grunt, the soft footfall of Ingwi the leopard following him at night, are part of the same magic as those stories, each "as tremendous as the fall of Rome," dreamt in the delirium of fever beside the Zambesi. Some of the tales were tragic; "they took me right away into those places where there is no hope." These imaginative glimpses set the book apart; through them Fairbridge's aim is understood as an effort to pin down in practical reality, during his short lifetime, one corner of the inexplicable freedom and immensity the veldt revealed to him.

Only an idealist would aim at transplanting the toiling world into loveliness. Instead of providing a new earth, Miss Squire is energetically occupied with the improving of conditions in the present one. Unpeopled country is displaced by crowded factories, where the unmitigated squalor and hardships of thirty years ago are seen yielding, step by step, to more humane and sanitary methods. A whole science of care and consideration for the worker has sprung up since the passing of the Factory Act and the appointment of inspectors. Illegal hours of work, bad lighting, and industrial disease are some of the many evils Miss Squire has dealt with. But hers is no dry record of committees and reports. She trapped, not leopards, but employers who kept women working through the night; and her mystery tour round the bogs of North-West Ireland demanded tact and veldt-craft for the secret investigation of unfair systems of wage payment.

As one of the earliest women factory inspectors, then as the first woman Principal in the Home Office, Miss Squire is a pioneer, no less than for the initiative and enterprise that characterized her work. We have but to couple her with Captain Sandes to confound the anti-feminists. If there was any profession left sacred to men it was surely that of soldiering. Now Captain Sandes has followed Boadicea and St. Joan, and shouldered a rifle in the Serbian Army. Mountains, mud, and damp, cold sleep in "funk holes" make up the foreground of her adopted life. Her story is like a child's most private dream come true, for the very essence of "let's pretend" is to be projected into a

HARRAP BOOKS

CHILDREN OF THE FOG

By CARMEL HADEN GUEST. 7/6 net

Times Lit. Supp.: "Unlike too many other novels of slum life, this sincere and moving story, obviously written from first-hand experience, achieves humour without descending to farce and pathos without sentimentality. A book disturbing in its accusatory impartiality."

Spectator: "A good plot and a gripping story. A comprehensive and intimate picture of London slum life, which should stir the conscience of every thoughtful reader."

H. G. WELLS: "A real good story and a very vivid and moving picture of Southwark life."

Daily Herald: "An exceedingly interesting story . . . bitterly true."

Westminster Gazette: "Mrs. Guest travels in the footsteps of Dickens. A real slice of low life, well observed and well described, with imaginative insight to give it creative value."

Rubies

By LOUIS MORESBY (E. Barrington) 7/6 net

An adventure story of Cornwall and Burma by an author whose biographical novels written under the name of E. Barrington are world-famous.

The Chinese Parrot

By EARL DERR BIGGERS 7/6 net

A mystery-tale by the author of *The House without a Key*. Charlie Chan, the Chinese detective, reappears here.

The Death Gong

By SELWYN JEPSON. 7/6 net

"A well-written story, full of thrills."—ROSE MACAULAY.
"Excellent."—*Sphere*.
"The reader of 'thrillers' will derive much enjoyment from this book."—*Morning Post*.

General

IRELAND

Its Places of Beauty, Entertainment, Sport, and Historic Association

By STEPHEN GWYNN. With 32 Half-tone Illustrations, Map, etc. 7/6 net

The first volume of "The Kitbag Travel Books," each of which will be written by an author who not only has an intimate knowledge of the region dealt with, but also is a writer of considerable literary standing.

Ladies Half-way

By B. MACDONALD HASTINGS. 6/- net

"An excellent book of essays."—*Punch*.

Humour of To-day

Edited by F. H. PRITCHARD. 3/6 net

"Full of laughter."—*Morning Post*.

THE STORY OF THE WORLD'S LITERATURE

By JOHN MACY. With 12 full-page illustrations and many drawings in the text by ONORIO RUOTOLO. 12/6 net

"A task hardly less ambitious than Wells' *Outline of History* . . . accomplished with extraordinary judgment and succinctness. Mr. Macy has a sure instinct for essentials, and a vivid style. The volume is a triumph of cheapness."—*Bookman*.

GEORGE G. HARRAP & CO. LTD.

Messrs. LONGMANS' LIST

WIT AND WISDOM OF DEAN INGE

S lected and arranged by

Sir JAMES MARCHANT, LL.D.

With an introduction by the Very Rev. W. R. INGE, Dean of St. Paul's. Crown 8vo. 3s. 6d. net.

The book is divided into six parts, under the headings of (1) RELIGION; (2) THE ETERNAL VALUES; (3) SOCIOLOGY; (4) LITERATURE; (5) ENGLAND; (6) REFLECTIONS.

Talks on Toc H.

THE SMOKING FURNACE AND THE BURNING LAMP

Edited by the Rev. P. B. CLAYTON, M.C., Padre of Toc H., Vicar of All Hallows, Barking-by-the-Tower. With Frontispiece. Crown 8vo.

Paper covers 2s. 6d.; Cloth 4s.

ESSAYS IN CHRISTIAN POLITICS AND KINDRED SUBJECTS

By the Rt. Rev. WILLIAM TEMPLE, D.Litt., Lord Bishop of Manchester. 8vo. 7s. 6d. net.

A QUAKER SAINT OF CORNWALL Loveday Hambly and Her Guests

By L. VIOLET HODGKIN (Mrs. John Holdsworth). With Illustrations in Colour by Mrs. Cayley Robinson, and in Black-and-White by E. W. Oldham.

8vo. 10s. 6d. net.

LAND, SEA AND AIR

Reminiscences of MARK KERR, Admiral R.N., Major-General R.A.F. (Retired). With Illustrations. 21s. net.
"Written in an easy and entertaining style . . . refreshing in their good-humoured attitude to life in general."—*The Observer*.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF MURDER

A Study in Criminal Psychology

By ANDREAS BJERRE, Doctor of Laws. Translated from the Swedish of E. CLASSÉN, M.A. 8vo. 9s. net.

PLANT AUTOGRAPHS AND THEIR REVELATIONS

By Sir JAGADIS CHUNDER BOSE, M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S. With Portrait of the Author and numerous Illustrations. 8vo. 7s. 6d. net.

ENGLISH FARMING, PAST AND PRESENT

By the Right Hon. LORD ERNLE, President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 1916-1919. FOURTH EDITION. 8vo. 12s. 6d. net.

New Novels 7s. 6d. net each

THE RECOLLECTIONS OF RODERIC FYFE

By JOHN OXENHAM.

"Is in this author's best vein, and must rank among his most distinguished work."—*Nottingham Guardian*.

WHIN FELL

By PAMELA HAMILTON (Erica Oxenham).

THE COUNTERFEITS

By MARJORIE STRACHEY.

"A delicious book—read it."—*The Observer*.

AN ALE-HOUSE GUEST

By JOAN YOUNG.

"An interesting story, told with considerable skill."—*Daily Mail*.

THE INNER NUMBER

By F. CHENHALLS WILLIAMS.

"A sensational story full of spies, Russian machinations, and murder trials."—*Westminster Gazette*.

MEARHAM

By W. LEONARD BUXTON.

"There is about the whole book a sincere love for the English countryside."—*The Times Literary Supplement*.

PEARL AND PLAIN

By ACEITUNA GRIFFIN.

"A tale of modern society . . . a book to read and enjoy."—*Western Mail*.

LONGMANS, GREEN & CO., LTD.
39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4.

frank impossibility. "Let's pretend," says Alice, "that I'm a hungry hyena and you're a bone." "Let's pretend," says, in effect, Captain Sandes, "that I'm a man and have joined the Army." And the fantastic adventure comes about, as casually as a dream. Transformed from nurse into soldier, "our Englishwoman," as her Serbian comrades called her, fought and was wounded with them in the Albanian hills, and worked her way from private up to captain. It was merely incidental to become a temporary nurse, take charge of a disorganized hospital, and then return to soldiering. But this surprising narrative ends with a confession of the enormous difficulty of turning back from soldier into woman. The end of "let's pretend" is always the anti-climax of the story, and so it was in this case. Perhaps Captain Sandes will yet "suffer a sea change" and join the Navy. Commander Hartford, who has just retired from it, can vouch for its delights, for he claims a memory that rejects the disagreeable. He has taxed that memory well for salty anecdotes and tales of service on the China station, where a revolution in the pygmy Chinese style produced excitement without casualties.

But it is time to shut out sea and air and mountains. In a sealed and darkened room, heavy with tobacco fumes and flowers, the Princess Carolyne Sayn-Wittgenstein sits writing by lamplight a treatise on the "Causes intérieures de la Faiblesse extérieure de l'Eglise," in twenty-four volumes of one thousand pages each. Into this atmosphere of suffocation Mr. Wallace, having duly "deventilated" himself of irrelevant considerations, enters to restage a careful drama of relationships, with this same unaided Princess as chief disruptive force, Wagner as self-centred cad, and Liszt as unheroic hero. It is all studiously and meticulously performed; but supposing Ingwi the leopard or a Serbian rifle-shot were to crash through these barred-up windows and disturb the air? There is no such danger. Mr. Wallace, scattering French and German phrases, plays on with his "inscrutable and not altogether scrupulous trio," manipulating them with a clever display of subtlety. And when the drama closes with the lonely death-scene of its unheroic hero Liszt, the audience, still musing on musicians, troops out into the rain.

It is a gentle rain of reminiscence, this of Eugénie Schumann's. None of it falls on Robert; "not the slightest remembrance of this dear father has remained with me!" For the most part it is a rain of personal tribute to her relations, who played music and wrote verses much as any German family may have done—except, of course, for mother Clara, whose pianistic gift shines radiantly through the shower of sentiment. There is a welcome glimpse of Brahms, habitually untidy, in "his coloured shirts without collars, his little alpaca coats, and the trousers which were always too short." Even here Fraulein Schumann hovers between sketching character and supplying elementary hints on piano technique, but there is no doubt that Brahms is responsible for an improvement in the quality of the rain.

Going back two centuries from this period, the rain becomes a mist, through which looms up a manuscript bearing the title "La Vie de feu Monsieur de Spinoza." Where now is the Princess with her twenty-four volume treatise? There is room in one small volume for French and English versions of this "Life," and additional biographical notes into the bargain. Yet the Princess's pet subject of the Church (in this case Synagogue) is strongly dealt with, and Spinoza's life recorded and defended. The very name of this ardent and brief-spoken disciple is obscured in mist, Professor Wolf favouring one Jean Maximilian Lucas—a journalist. With Lucas, enthusiasm exceeds accuracy, though Spinoza had taught him the word "Truth," with which he scornfully flouts the philosopher's detractors. We should like to explore further in this mist, but a snowstorm is upon us. Mr. Newton does not rain down theatrical memories, he snows them. Flakes of Sir Henry Irving, flakes of Tree and Phelps, flakes of his fourscore Hamlets, make a multitudinous profusion in the air, but all melt immediately in contact with the ground. It is depressing to watch such a dense snowstorm melt so harmlessly away. Evidently it has strayed into the wrong temperature; even the largest snowflake perishes when confronted with an African sun.

HISTORICAL BIOGRAPHY

The Life of Bishop Wilfrid by Eddius Stephanus. Text, Translation, and Notes by B. COLGRAVE. (Cambridge University Press. 12s. 6d.)

From Coronet to Crown: the Life of William the Conqueror. By SARAH HENRY BENTON. (Kegan Paul. 10s. 6d.)

Victor Emmanuel II. and the Union of Italy. By C. S. FORESTER. (Methuen. 10s. 6d.)

The Wives of Henry VIII. By MARTIN HUME. (Nash & Grayson. 12s. 6d.)

Lord George Murray and the Forty-Five. By WINIFRED DUKE. (Milne & Hutchison. 7s. 6d.)

Mary Pensonby. Edited by MAGDALEN PONSONBY. (Murray. 16s.)

HISTORICAL biography proper is the art of narrating the life-story of an historical personage in such a way as to show the effect of that personage on the history of his times. To-day it is one of the commonest methods of historical writing, and, except where the writer's purpose is avowedly confined to describing the personality of his subject (usually in the iconoclastic or mildly ironical style), almost universal in modern biographies of historical characters. Yet it was an art quite unknown to the ancient world; up to the first century of our era biographical writing was regarded as intrinsically devoid of historical connection or value, and when at last the increasingly personal character of history under the Emperors induced Suetonius and his followers to attempt candid and impartial accounts of their lives, these writers, for various reasons, remained essentially biographers, and never treated their subjects as part of a larger historical scheme.

Eddius Stephanus's "Life of Wilfrid," though not deriving directly from the classics, is a good example of the classical method of biography without historical accordance. Wilfrid had great influence on English history; above all, he was largely responsible for the Council of Whitby, which brought the English Church into line with the rest of Western Christendom. Yet a reader of Eddius's "Life," without Mr. Colgrave's illuminating notes and introduction, though he would obtain an interesting enough impression of life in England in the late seventh century, would have no idea that Wilfrid differed from any other cleric of the Dark Ages in anything but his contumacity towards his ecclesiastical superiors. Whereas, of the three modern works before us that are full biographies of historical characters, only the Life of William the Conqueror is more concerned with the personality of its subject than with his effect on history, and that only because its authoress is deliberately giving the story of the Bastard of Falaise as told in contemporary chronicles; even she introduces historical sidelights that would have seemed irrelevant to Eddius or Suetonius. The other two are clear examples of the modern method. Mr. Forester's book, indeed, is a most interesting account, more interesting perhaps for the story than for the manner of telling it, of the reunion of Italy, but only a biography of Victor Emmanuel inasmuch as the king's life synchronized with, and personified, that historical event. One chapter only is given to his private life and character, and much of that is occupied with historical speculation as to what would have been the effect on history if Victor Emmanuel had personally commanded his armies, and the like; whereas his extraordinarily diverse amours (which would have been the main theme of an ancient biographer) are barely mentioned. Mr. Hume's book on Henry VIII's wives has many more personal interludes, while retaining its preoccupation with history, and might well be considered a perfect piece of historical biography if the validity of its historical theories were assured. As it is, it illustrates the great pitfall of the modern method, that the writer, in his anxiety to treat his subject in relation to history, is apt to assign historical significance to people who did not, in fact, possess it. The influence on English history of Henry's concupiscence in the case of Anne Boleyn is, of course, universally admitted, and is well brought out in this book; but Mr. Hume goes on to argue that all Henry's matrimonial adventures were similarly influential, and here the reader feels that the effect of these ladies is being exaggerated, and wishes that Mr. Hume would be content to tell the picturesque story of their lives without associating them so continually with the historical events of the reign. In fact, he almost wishes for Suetonius back again.

Miss Duke's book on Lord George Murray is in a different

MACMILLAN'S NEW BOOKS

LIFE AND LETTERS OF LORD BRYCE

By the RT. HON. H. A. L. FISHER, Warden of New College, Oxford. With Portraits and Illustrations. 2 vols. 32s. net.

Second Impression.

EARLY LIFE AND LETTERS OF JOHN MORLEY

By F. W. HIRST. With Portraits and other Illustrations. 2 vols. 28s. net.

1927 Issue. Just Published.

THE STATESMAN'S YEAR BOOK

Edited by M. EPSTEIN, M.A., Ph.D. With Maps. 20s. net.

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION (1917-1926)

By LANCELOT LAWTON. With Illustrations. 21s. net.

The Times Literary Supplement: "Then follows the most valuable part of his book, and very valuable it is, for as yet we have nothing so good on the subject. Mr. Lawton gives a fair and clear account of the changing shades of difference between the political ideals of the principal Bolshevik leaders. This account is carefully documented and quite convincing."

THE GORGON'S HEAD and other Literary Pieces

By Sir JAMES GEORGE FRAZER, O.M., F.R.S., F.B.A., Author of "The Golden Bough," etc. With a Preface by Anatole France and a Portrait of the Author from the Bust by Antoine Bourdelle. 15s. net.

THE ABSOLUTE AT LARGE A FANTASTIC STORY

By KAREL CAPEK, Author of "R.U.R.," "The Insect Play," etc. 7s. 6d. net

The Evening Standard: "Scientific men sometimes give us a glimpse of what may happen when man can harness the atom. Karel Capek has gone farther and envisioned a world in which atomic energy, having been harnessed, first provides mankind with a new religion and then sets all the world at war. It is a disturbing vision, as well as a fine piece of satire."

THE ABILITIES OF MAN : Their Nature and Measurement

By C. SPEARMAN, Ph.D., F.R.S. 16s. net.

The Daily News: "This is a masterly treatise. It cannot, of course, be recommended as a substitute for such light, after-dinner reading as 'Sordello,' but it is worth every minute intelligently spent on it. Its effect will be far-reaching."

CHANGING BACKGROUNDS IN RELIGION AND ETHICS :

A METAPHYSICAL MEDITATION

By W. H. WILDON CARR. 7s. 6d. net.

MACMILLAN & CO., LTD., LONDON, W.C.2

CAMBRIDGE BOOKS

Recently Published

TRAVELS IN SPAIN AND THE EAST, 1808-1810

By SIR FRANCIS SACHEVERELL DARWIN. Crown 8vo. 6s net.

Sir Francis Sacheverell Darwin was the sixth son of the poet and scientist, Erasmus Darwin. This diary of his travels in Spain, Portugal, and the Mediterranean in company with Theodore Galton throws interesting light on the dangers of travel in the days of the Peninsular War.

DOROTHY AND WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

By CATHERINE M. MACLEAN, M.A. Crown 8vo. 6s net.

This volume contains nine essays, some of them dealing with Dorothy Wordsworth, about whom specifically little has been written, and with the part that she played in her brother's life; others dealing with Wordsworth's poetry and his theory of poetic diction.

THE ETTRICK SHEPHERD

By EDITH C. BATHO. Crown 8vo. 7s 6d net.

A study of the life and work of James Hogg, the poet and prose-writer and the acquaintance of Scott, Wordsworth, and Byron. Although Hogg wrote much, little is remembered except his well-known poem, "Bonny Kilmeny gaed up the glen."

THEMIS

A Study of the Social Origins of Greek Religion.

By JANE ELLEN HARRISON, J.P., Hon. LL.D. (Aberdeen), Hon. D.Litt. (Durham).

With an excursus on the ritual forms preserved in Greek Tragedy by Professor GILBERT MURRAY, and a chapter on the origin of the Olympic Games by Mr F. M. CORNFORD.

Second Edition revised, with a Preface and Supplementary Notes.

With 152 Illustrations. Demy 8vo. 21s net.

THE DIFFUSION OF CULTURE

The Frazer Lecture in Social Anthropology, 1927.

By R. R. MARETT, M.A., D.Sc. Crown 8vo. 1s 6d net.

THE CAMBRIDGE REINAERT FRAGMENTS

(Culemann Fragments)

Edited, with a photographic reproduction, a literal transcription, an amended text, and an introduction and a bibliography.

By KARL BREUL, M.A., Litt.D., Ph.D. Folschap 4to. 7s 6d net.

THE ECONOMICS OF SMALL HOLDINGS

A Study based on a Survey of Small Scale Farming in Carmarthenshire.

By EDGAR THOMAS.

With a Preface by C. S. ORWIN, M.A. Crown 8vo. 4s 6d net.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
FETTER LANE, LONDON, E.C.4

class of historical biography. It does not aim at showing the effect of its subject on the history of his times (for Murray had no great historical importance), but at providing raw material for that history by a detailed account of the feelings and activities of a participant, illustrated from his own letters and journals. The book is therefore in many ways the most interesting of the batch. We are given no consecutive history of the Forty-Five, but we get a vivid impression, from an entirely mundane standpoint, of that romantic movement, especially of the difficulties that beset Charles Stuart in the matter of commissariat and disposal of prisoners, and of the incessant friction between him and his officers. The *Life of Lady Ponsonby*, so far as it can be treated under this heading at all, belongs to the same class. The material is here even rawer, for we are allowed very few explanatory footnotes on historical allusions, but the picture in Lady Ponsonby's letters of the exploits and sentiments of Queen Victoria's entourage will be none the less of great value to the historian. It would be a pity, however, to treat exclusively as raw material a book which is so entertaining in itself. Lady Ponsonby's own letters, with their shrewd and even acrid descriptions of her surroundings, are delightful; so are the illiterate scribbles from the Queen; particularly so are the letters from the unfortunate Empress Frederick, combining constant protestations that she is a good Liberal with a succession of the most blatantly Jingo sentiments.

PLAYS

Devonshire Plays. By EDEN PHILLPOTTS. (Duckworth. 7s.)

The Blue Comet. By EDEN PHILLPOTTS. (Duckworth. 3s.)

The Glen is Mine. By JOHN BRANDANE. (Constable. 3s. 6d.)

The Lifting. By JOHN BRANDANE. (Constable. 3s. 6d.)

Twelve One-Acters. By JOHN POLLOCK. (Cayme Press. 7s. 6d.)

Perfectly Scandalous. By WILLIAM GERHARDI. (Benn. 3s. 6d.)

Virgil's Secret, &c. By HUGH MACNAGHTEN. (Arnold. 5s.)

Marino Faliero. By JACK LINDSAY. (Franfrolico Press. 21s.)

MR. PHILLPOTTS's plays are already so popular that any recommendation of them is superfluous, any comment rather belated. For years it seemed the underground railways were engaged in carrying people to and from the Court Theatre. Now "*The Farmer's Wife*" and two similar plays have been printed under the general title: "*Devonshire Plays*." There is no reason why numbers of these comedies should not be written. The formula from which they are concocted is reliable and wholesome, and as long as the public is satisfied so long will they succeed. There is, however, the danger that formulas provoke fashions (e.g., Lamplough's Saline and Felix the Cat), which do not last for ever. Yet even short-lived fashions are respectable, for if the formula is harmless its effects cannot be deleterious, and are often valuable. Laughter, however futile, mere physical laughter, is an excellent thing; thousands of people have laughed at "*The Farmer's Wife*." And they have laughed because, from the first act to the last, through whatever tribulations the dramatist may have introduced to suspend their merriment, there is never for a moment any doubt as to the solution of the plot; they know that according to the rule that all is for the best in the best possible of worlds, the ending will be happy, A will marry B, C will forgive D, and so on. They know, for instance, that Sweetland will marry at the end of "*The Farmer's Wife*." The plot is so inevitable that one would willingly cut off its tail with a carving knife. The effect, at least, would be to bring the play into some perspective with life. That does not seem to be the author's intention. For in his world of lads and lassies and farmers and vicars and uncles and aunts and grandparents, people do not live as we do or even as they do in Devonshire. But they live according to a delightful code, in an atmosphere that reeks of plenty. They are not worried by their personalities, since they have none. Types, they understand one another perfectly, because the unexpected is never to be feared in their relationships; married, they live happily ever afterwards. The same formula is used, without the local ingredients from Devonshire, in "*The Blue Comet*," another comedy wherein every wish is fulfilled. The local colour in this play is supplied by a blue comet that fails to annihilate the earth in the third act, thereby permitting the Bedale family to enjoy the money of a fabulously rich cousin from Australia.

It is interesting to compare Mr. Brandane's two plays of peasant life on the West Coast of Scotland with Mr. Phillpotts's arcadian yokels. "*The Glen is Mine*" contains one excellent character, that of an old crofter who resists every attempt of a group of mineral speculators to bankrupt and evict him. "*The Lifting*" is a tragedy of the 1715 rebellion, the tragedy of a girl in love with the man who has killed her brother, and who is himself killed in an attempt to cover the retreat of two lovers. Both plays are slight, but they show a knowledge of the stage, and also of the effectiveness of Gaelic dialect. "*The Lifting*," in fact, has much of the directness and poignancy of a ballad, rewritten in prose for the theatre. If it were not for the difficulty of the language, this play could be recommended to one of the repertory companies which act two and sometimes three plays in an evening.

The question of the commercial value of short plays is raised by Mr. Pollock in an introduction to his collection of "*Twelve One-Acters*." "*The Lifting*" is, of course, larger and more important than any of these, although it is barely long enough for a London theatre and might suffer the fate which Mr. Pollock deplures. The solution of this lies, surely, with the impresario, not with the playwright. Fifty years ago, curtain-raisers were fashionable; to-day there is no market for them. The old argument of the commercialization of the theatre may explain this: managers cannot afford the high salaries. Or, again, a London audience, even when it is punctual, prefers a two or three hours' run for its money; or, of course, there may be no supply of short plays. None of these explanations is wholly satisfactory. It is not necessary to employ different casts for the main and the subsidiary plays, while multiple bills have been successful in the provinces. Lastly, some of Mr. Pollock's plays are adequate—many of them have been staged. But his subjects suffer from dramatic treatment, are abbreviated and appear thin. As short stories they would be excellent. In the theatre the author, in order to present a situation, must prepare his audience for a climax, or its equivalent, a completed pattern of characters and events. The one act of thirty minutes is not large enough for this preparation. The rare exception (e.g., "*Box and Cox*"), where the situation itself supplies everything without the assistance of character, has not been discovered by Mr. Pollock.

William Gerhardt's "*Perfectly Scandalous, or the Immorality Lady*," is the best of this bunch of plays. It is all rather fantastic, though very amusing. The *dramatis personæ* are the incongruous guests one might expect to meet in a Tyrolean *pension*: the head of an Oxford college, praying for the return of his divorced wife, Mrs. Brandon; her illegitimate son by an Indian Army officer; a Russian Grand Duke, who shoots himself in the first act, and his Irish Grand Duchess with an army of lovers; Herr Pfeffer, from Zurich, who must be poking fun at the ladies and his fingers into their persons; Frau Mûche, the proprietress, her boozy husband, her lout of a son, and her daughter, engaged to the groom who lives with the housemaid. Mrs. Brandon dies in the end, exhausted by her efforts to reform the wickedness of the world, but happily reconciled to her husband and even to Herr Pfeffer. She at least solved her problem. As for the others, we suppose them to be living still, Schmidt in America, Bean in college, the Duchess in sin, and the rest in a world of highly successful comedy.

"*Virgil's Secret*" and the other studies in the Vice-Provost of Eton's volume are pleasant to read. They are an ingenious patchwork of quotation from the Classics in prose and verse woven into dialogue. There is no sign of labour anywhere. The prose is polished smooth and the verse translations from Horace, Virgil, and Catullus are admirably concise. This is a book that expresses an attitude towards the Classics, and to Latin in particular, that is essentially English, sentimental sometimes, but quite free from pedantry, the attitude of the old translators without their sublime carelessness.

"*Marino Faliero*" is an expensive volume. Some day, perhaps, the collectors of this kind of book will realize that fine paper and print cannot justify an ignorance of the principles of writing, still less an absolute lack of imagination.

NEW LIPPINCOTT BOOKS

THE BRIDGE TO FRANCE

By EDWARD N. HURLEY. Numerous illustrations from photographs, war posters, and facsimiles of letters and documents of historical interest. Octavo. 21s.

This book brings the reader in contact with the work and personalities of Wilson, Schwab, Edison, Ford, Colby, Hoover, Pershing, Gen. March, Lord Northcliffe, Geddes, Kerensky, House, Dawes, Lord Reading, Foch, Lloyd George, Clemenceau and others, with many of whom the author was in close contact.

THE MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

By CHARLEMAGNE TOWER, LL.D. Illustrated. Two Royal 8vo. Volumes. 50s.

Mr. Tower's book is undoubtedly the authoritative life of La Fayette. No historical library, private or public, is complete without this work.

MYTHS AND LEGENDS OF FLOWERS, TREES, FRUITS AND PLANTS

By CHARLES M. SKINNER. New and Revised Edition. Illustrated. 12s. 6d.

Here are gathered in one compendious volume, alphabetically arranged, the legends of flowers, trees, fruits, and plants of all countries and all ages.

HOW TO SPEAK FRENCH LIKE THE FRENCH

By MARIE and JEANNE YERSIN (Originators of the Phonetic Rhythmic Method). 10s. 6d.

Those who study this book will acquire a command of the French language surpassing all expectations.

PSYCHOLOGY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF A BEHAVIOURIST

By JOHN B. WATSON. Second New and Revised Edition. 12s. 6d.

The study of behaviourism, the new psychology, based on natural science, which is affecting every branch of modern thought to-day. It will show you how to direct and control your own actions through an understanding of the behaviour of others.

Descriptive Illustrated Circulars and Spring Announcement List sent post free on application.

16 JOHN STREET, ADELPHI, LONDON, W.C.2

SHAKESPEARE HEAD LIMITED EDITION NEW ANNOUNCEMENT



DEFOE

14 volumes.

7s. 6d. net each.

Order now at Published Price.

STERNE. 7 vols., 7s. 6d. net each.

Edition sold out—apply to Booksellers.

FIELDING. 10 vols., 7s. 6d. net each.

Edition sold out—apply to Booksellers.

SMOLLETT. 11 vols., 7s. 6d. net each.

Edition sold out—apply to Booksellers.

FROISSARTS CRONICLES

BERNERS' TRANSLATION; PYNSON'S TEXT.

Arms hand-coloured. 8 vols., 25 guineas net.

Edition sold out—apply to Booksellers.

ETHEREGE—DRAMATIC WORKS

Edited by H. F. B. BRETT-SMITH.

2 vols. 15s. net.

Ready June.

A THIRD VOLUME: POEMS AND LETTERS.

Limited to orders only. 15s. net. (Spring, 1928.)

PROBATION IN EUROPE

By T. W. TROUGHT. 7s. 6d. net.

The first synoptic view of European Probation Systems.

PRINCIPLES AND PRECEPTS

Sermons by the late HASTINGS RASHDALL. 6s. net.

OTHERS. By ARCHIBALD WEIR. 6s. net.

A sequel to SELF.

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE

FIFTH GROUP OF PLAYS. 3s. 6d. net each.

J. HASTINGS TURNER \diamond *The Scarlet Lady.*

A. G. BERRISFORD \diamond *The One Eternal Thing.*

BERNARD GILBERT \diamond *Peers Woodman.*

HERMAN OULD \diamond *The Moon Rides High.*



BEFORE
SCOTLAND YARD

Classic Tales of Roguery and Detection. 7s. 6d. net.

THE
NEW DECAMERON
Fifth Volume. 7s. 6d. net.

THE MILLENNIUM
A Satyrical Narrative.
By J. G. LEGGE. 5s. net.

NOTABLE POETRY

L. A. G. STRONG \diamond *DIFFICULT LOVE.* 5s. net.

KATHARINE TYNAN \diamond *TWILIGHT SONGS.* 5s. net.

C. D. B. ELLIS \diamond *THE DISPASSIONATE PILGRIM.* 3s. 6d. net.

BASIL BLACKWELL \diamond OXFORD

Details?—Spring List post free.

NEW PUTNAM BOOKS

THE REVOLT OF ASIA. The End of the White Man's Dominance by UPTON CLOSE. 10/6 net. DEAN INGE in the EVENING STANDARD "An important and very disquieting book."

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY by E. ROY CALVERT, with a wrapper by FRANK BRANGWYN, R.A., and an introduction by the Rt. Hon. LORD BUCKMASTER, P.C. Cloth 5/- net, Paper 3/6 net. DAILY MIRROR. "A concise and masterly examination of an extremely complex problem."

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION by SIR LEWIS A. SELBY-BIGGE, Bt., K.C.B. The fifth volume in THE WHITEHALL SERIES. 7/6 net. SCHOOLMASTER. "No one who wishes to understand our educational system must fail to read it."

LAUGHING TRUTHS by CARL SPITTELER. Translated by JAMES F. MUIRHEAD. 7/6 net. A volume of Essays, whimsical, critical, and ironic by "the greatest of Swiss writers," showing him as author, artist, musician, citizen, nature-lover, and man.

24, BEDFORD STREET, W.C.2

W. & R. CHAMBERS'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOW READY. VOLUMES I. to IX. OF THE NEW EDITION OF

CHAMBERS'S ENCYCLOPÆDIA A DICTIONARY OF UNIVERSAL KNOWLEDGE

Edited by DAVID PATRICK, LL.D., and WILLIAM GEDDIE, M.A., B.Sc.

To be completed in 10 volumes. Cloth 20/- net; half moro., 35/- net per volume.

SOME OF THE IMPORTANT ARTICLES IN VOLUME 9:

Sanchuniathon. HERBERT LOEWE.
Science. Prof. PATRICK GEDDES.
Scott, Sir Walter. ANDREW LANG.
Sea. Prof. J. JOHNSTONE.
Seaweeds. Prof. R. J. HARVEY GIBSON.
Semites. Dr. STANLEY A. COOK.
Sensation. Dr. A. NINIAN BRUCE.
Sex and Many Natural History Articles. Prof. J. A. THOMSON.
Shakespeare. G. B. HARRISON.
Shipbuilding. J. R. BARNETT.
Artificial Silk. A. B. STEVEN.
Silver. Prof. HENRY BRIGGS.
Socialism. E. R. PEASE.
Sociology. VICTOR V. BRANFORD.

Soils and Kindred Articles. Prof. J. A. S. WATSON.
Spinning. Prof. ROBERTS BEAUMONT.
Spitsbergen. Dr. R. N. RUDMOSE BROWN.
Stars, Sun. Sir FRANK DYSON.
Steam; Steam Engine; Steam Turbine, etc. Sir THOMAS HUDSON BEARE.
Sir R. Steele. AUSTIN DOBSON.
Stone Age. Prof. R. A. S. MACALISTER.
Storms. Lieut-Colonel E. GOLD.
Sun-Cult. W. J. PERRY.
Tabu; Tatu. NORTHCOTE W. THOMAS.
Naval Tactics. Admiral Sir REGINALD TUPPER.
Tasmania. A. W. JOSE.
Technical Education. Dr. H. F. STOCKDALE.

New edition 1,006 pages; Cloth 15/- net, half morocco 30/- net

Chambers's Biographical Dictionary

THE GREAT OF ALL NATIONS AND ALL TIMES.
Edited by WILLIAM GEDDIE, M.A., B.Sc., and J. LIDDELL GEDDIE, M.A.

THE BOOK THAT SOLVES CROSS WORD PUZZLES.
Chambers's Twentieth Century 7/6 net.
Dictionary

New edition. 1,256 pages.
EXCELLENT HOLIDAY READING.

Betty

By J. J. BELL. New humorous story by the Author of "Wee Macgregor."

Betty has a keen sense of observation, and her duties at the Post Office afford her never-ending opportunity for exercising that faculty. As a result we have, in addition to the story of her own love affairs, some very pawky and humorous comments on life in general.

Out in the Glare

Price 2/6 net.

A CRICKET STORY By G. APPLEBY TERRILL.
A book which takes you magically from your surroundings—from sitting-room, from railway carriage, from wherever you are reading it—and keeps you, fascinated, at the wicket in a county cricket match.

It is all so real that you, as you read feel the sun beating upon you, and breathe the scent of the hot turf of the playing-pitch; and tensely, over after over, you watch the bowler taking his run, and see the ball come "scarlet, spinning" through the air from his fingers.

READING THIS NOVEL ADDS TO THE JOY OF LIFE.
Four Editions have been published in Britain, Australia and the U.S.A.

The Key Above the Door

By MAURICE WELSH. 7/6 net.

The Sunday Times says of this romance of the Highlands: "... There is fun as well as passion and poetry in the book. One of the most thoroughly enjoyable novels published for a long time past."

WHAT THE AMERICAN CRITICS SAY:

"Not in many successions of moons has there been such a book. It is a continuous prose poem, with all the glamor of young romance, the lure of the eternal hills, the virus of fishing, the rare wit of the Scot, the beauty of certain women, the virility, albeit tender hearts of some men."

"The story moves along with a charm and smoothness that immediately lift it far above the level of the average simple folk in their simple surroundings. The characterisations have been drawn by a master hand."

"The discerning reader will find much that is excellent and all too rare."

The Fringes of Edinburgh

7/6 net.

By JOHN GEDDIE. Author of "The Fringes of Fife," "Romantic Edinburgh," etc. Illustrated by ARTHUR WALL, with 16 full-page drawings in colour and a host of dainty pen-and-ink sketches picturing scenes and places full of romantic, historical, and literary associations.

READY IN MAY.

7/6 net.

Bristol Eyes!

By G. APPLEBY TERRILL.

A volume of short stories that will give unalloyed pleasure to readers who appreciate distinction of style in the telling of modern as well as old-world tales of adventure and romance.

Three of Mr. Terrill's stories, which appeared serially in the U.S.A., were included in "The Best Short Stories of the Year" (Boston, U.S.A.).

Scotland's Heir

By WINIFRED DUKE.

7/6 net.

"The Prince, Lord George, Elcho, Sheridan, Clementina—they are all quite unforgettable."—HUGH WALPOLE.

Educating a Husband

By JOHN L. CARTER.

3/6 net.

A mélange of Marriage, Morals and Motors.

Over the Sea to Skye

7/6 net.

By ALASDAIR ALPIN MACGREGOR. Author of "Behold the Hebrides!" Illustrated with 40 beautiful photographs. With a Foreword by the Rt. Hon. J. RAMSAY MACDONALD.

Edinburgh Memories and Some Worthies

By Councillor WILSON M'LAREN.

3/6 net.

"These reminiscences will delight all lovers of 'Auld Reekie.'"

The Cathedrals of Scotland

7/6 net.

By IAN G. LINDSAY. With a Foreword by Sir Geo. DOUGLAS, Bart. Beautifully illustrated.

Golfers who love a laugh will enjoy this fantasy.

Podson's Golfing Year

By A. CAMPBELL WATSON.

1/6 net.

The story of Podson's amazing performances will amuse the plus Golfer quite as much as the long handicap man.

The Budding Cricketer

1/- net.

By A. C. RUSSELL (Essex and England XI's) and W. N. STEVENS. General Hints to the Aspirant and Young Club Cricketer.

This little manual by two enthusiastic experts is a commendable effort on their part to tell young folks how to attain efficiency in the game, and contains much that is inspiring and encouraging.

A BOOK THAT WILL DELIGHT THE LADIES.

The Practical Daily Menu

2/6 net.

By C. B. PEACOCK. Suggestions and Recipes for 365 Breakfasts, 365 Dinners, 365 Suppers.

"Think of it, ye tired housewives. Almost too good to be true."—*Evening Times*.

W. & R. CHAMBERS, LTD., 38 Soho Square, LONDON, W.1; 339 High Street, EDINBURGH.

